

Study Report on ill effects of soft drinks

†3291. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the report on soft drinks submitted in the hon'ble Supreme Court by national level expert group which has mentioned ill-effects of soft drinks on health;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said report is based on research carried out on scientific basis in various countries of the world; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The National Level Expert Group in its report has provided details of possible harmful effects of:

- (i) Soft drinks/beverages and obesity
- (ii) Soft drinks/beverages and dental health
- (iii) Other health related effects due to consumption of soft drinks/beverages
- (iv) Contents of soft drinks/beverages
 - Caffeine
 - Phosphoric Acid
 - Ethylene glycol
 - Aspartame
 - Carbon dioxide

The said report is based on research carried out on scientific basis in various countries of the world. However, the group has noted that the studies to establish co-relationship between consumption of carbonated water

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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RAJYA SABHA

and its effects on health are extremely difficult as it involves several compounding factors. The group has recommended that there is a need to carry out well controlled studies to assess effect of consumption of carbonated water on health.

Problems faced by Urology patients in the RML Hospital

3292. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of aged patients suffering from prostate problem have to bank upon only on one senior Urologist in the R.M.L. Hospital who has fixed only one day in a week for these patients and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the senior doctor either would not be available on that allotted day or would be late and the patients are attended to by his Junior colleagues who are not the authorized signatories for issue of C.G.H.S. medicines and patients have to wait again for the senior urologist to obtain his signature on the prescriptions; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefore and whether Government propose to direct the authority concerned to issue medicines prescribed by the Junior doctors and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI.PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The patients of prostate problems are examined by the Senior Urologist every Monday, regularly with the assistance of Senior and Junior residents.

Patients seen by Senior and Junior Residents are counterchecked and the prescription are countersigned by the Senior Urologist.

NACO Programmes on Aids Control

3293. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision for the National AIDS Control Programme in the country;